



COALITION ON HUMAN NEEDS

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT: COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

The Coalition on Human Needs is hiring a Communications Director, a new permanent senior position. This is an opportunity for a committed professional to shape the communications strategy and activities of an organization seeking more federal investments to reduce poverty and increase opportunity in the U.S.

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

A mother going without a meal to make sure her child is fed, poor seniors forced to choose between heating their homes and buying prescription drugs, children falling behind in school because their parents must move from one homeless shelter to another – these are stories that must be told. The Coalition on Human Needs is seeking a committed staff person who can communicate these stories – and connect them to the actions that public officials must take to reduce poverty and increase economic security.

The Communications Director we seek will have experience in generating coverage of key economic and social justice issues, such as poverty, inequality, affordable housing, discrimination, or health care. You will have experience increasing exposure through social media, print, radio and video, writing or editing pieces and getting reporters and editorial writers to cover the issues. You will be familiar with federal decision-making, and be strategic about how to use the media to affect the decisions made.

You may have worked for a nonprofit organization, a government agency or an elected official. You may have experience as a journalist. A number of years of experience doing communications work in one or more of these roles will be excellent background to be CHN's new Communications Director. A successful candidate will be able to show examples of media coverage you helped to generate through campaigns/projects you played a role in shaping. Cutting edge knowledge of digital media tools is important.

We need a creative person who is deeply committed to justice and equity, with a track record for increasing public (and public official) attention to these concerns. CHN has a small staff, including a Communications Associate working with online and social media, so you must be able to work effectively within a team as well as independently. We also work with many advocates in organizations in Washington and nationwide. As such, a successful candidate will be able to work collaboratively with diverse coalition members and persuade them to cooperate in activities likely to generate media coverage.

QUALIFICATIONS AND COMPENSATION

- Five years or more experience in strategic communications, with demonstrated track record for increasing an organization's media reach.
- Strong writing skills; able to show a portfolio of articles, opinion pieces, press releases, social media campaigns, or other communications projects related to U.S. anti-poverty and/or human needs concerns.
- Experience in writing or editing for a variety of audiences, including the general public, advocates, and policy-makers.
- Experience in strategic use of digital advocacy tools, online and social media to increase visibility and encourage advocacy action.
- Experience in assisting potential op-ed writers with drafting/editing; experience in placing such opinion pieces a plus.
- Experience in working with state/local groups to get coverage for their reports or events.
- B.A. or B.S. degree in related field.

Salary in \$55k - \$65k range. CHN offers excellent benefits including employer-paid health insurance, generous pension plan, paid sick and administrative leave, and four weeks of paid vacation.

The Coalition on Human Needs is an equal opportunity employer. Women and minorities are strongly encouraged to apply.

THE ORGANIZATION

The Coalition on Human Needs was founded in 1981 to bring together organizations and advocates who promote federal policies supporting the lives of low-income and vulnerable families and individuals. CHN's members include over 100 religious, service provider, labor, policy and advocacy organizations concerned with the well-being of low-income individuals, children, women, seniors, and people with disabilities. CHN helps thousands of national and grassroots organizations work together to defend or expand federally-funded services such as health care, housing, services for children and families, education/training, tax policy, income assistance, and nutrition. Staff members track these issues and provide advocates nationwide with timely information and action steps in support of a federal human needs agenda.

For more information on CHN, please visit our website at www.chn.org

TO APPLY

Please email cover letter, resume, writing samples and three references to jsandager@chn.org. No faxes or phone calls, please.